

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06189 210604Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 ARA-10 ACDA-12 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00
FBOE-00 A-01 /105 W
-----119668 220729Z /23

R 201628Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5343
INFO AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06189

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV YS
SUBJECT: FCO ON PDRY (SOUTH YEMEN)

REF: LONDON 5031

1. DURING VISIT OF NEA ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS TO LONDON, FCO ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY WEIR AND HEAD OF FCO MIDDLE EAST DEPT, LUCAS, BRIEFED US APR 18 ON PDRY (SOUTH YEMEN) AS FOLLOWS: WEIR STATED THAT THE FCO REGARDS THE PDRY REGIME AS A SOVIET SATELLITE IN ALL BUT NAME. SALEM RUBAYI ALI APPEARS TO BE DISCREDITED, SINCE

ABDUL FATTAH ISMAIL WENT TO THE REJECTION FRONT MEETING FOR THE FIRST TIME. IN ADDITION TO THE SOVIET BUILD-UP, THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED 600-700 CUBANS IN SOUTH YEMEN NOW. LUCAS DOUBTED THAT PDRY HAD SIGNED A "BASE AGREEMENT,"
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BUT NOTED THAT THE REGIME HAS GRANTED SO MANY "FACILITIES" TO THE RUSSIANS THAT IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE. EVEN THE KUWAITIS AND THE UAE HAVE BEEN PERSUADED NOT TO GIVE FRESH AID TO THE SOUTH YEMENIS; THE KUWAITIS WILL COMPLETELY TRANSFERRING ONLY WHAT IS IN THE PIPELINE. WHEN THE PDRY'S ALI NASSER MUHAMMAD WENT AROUND THE GULF SEEKING AID, HE WAS TOLD NO MORE IS COMING. WEIR ALSO INFORMED

THE U.S. OFFICERS THAT THE PDRY REGIME HAS JUST INFORMED
THE BRITISH THAT IT WISHES TO RECOVER THE EMPTY U.S.
EMBASSY BUILDING IN ADEN.

2. WEIR SAID THAT THE PDRY REGIME HAD JUST SUCCEEDED IN
PERSUADING SOME BRITISH LABOR PARTY MPS TO GO OUT AND
VISIT ADEN IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. HE COMMENTED THAT THE
PDRY REGIME WILL PRESENT THIS AS A GESTURE OF BRITISH
POLITICAL INTEREST, BUT THAT IT REALLY IS NOT. FINALLY,
HE NOTED SOME REPORT FROM A YARG SOURCE THAT THE RUSSIANS
ARE GOING TO TRAIN A BIG PDRY FORCE OF SOME 20,000.

STREATOR

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NNN

Message Attributes

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